OSCE ODIHR
HATE CRIME REPORTING

Information contained in this report was compiled as part of ODIHR's 2020 Hate Crime Report.
For more information, including on previous years' reporting, please visit: hatecrime.osce.org/croatia

For more information about ODIHR's Hate Crime Report, visit: hatecrime.osce.org/our-methodology

1 2020

Summary

Croatia regularly reports hate crime data to ODIHR.

Since 2006, Croatia has implemented ODIHR's Law Enforcement Outreach Programme (LEOP) followed by the updated Training Against Hate Crime for Law Enforcement (TAHCLE) programme.

In 2021, the government adopted an updated inter-agency "Protocol for Procedure in Cases of Hate Crime", establishing state authorities' responsibilities in addressing hate crime and revising the responsibilities of the dedicated Working Group for monitoring hate crimes. In 2021, the Working Group participated in ODIHR's diagnostic workshop to assess national structures and services for hate crime victim support, resulting in a set of ODIHR recommendations to the relevant state authorities. Data on hate crimes are regularly published by the Office for Human Rights and the Rights of National Minorities.

Hate crime data collection in Croatia
Support for hate crime victims in Croatia
Hate crime capacity building in Croatia
Croatia's hate crime legislation

ODIHR's Key Observation

ODIHR recognizes Croatia's efforts to improve hate crime recording and data collection, and welcomes that the recently updated Protocol for Procedure in Cases of Hate Crime anticipates that data on hate crime disaggregated by bias motivation shall be made public. However, based on the available information, it observes that Croatia's hate crime recording and statistics do not sufficiently distinguish hate crimes from other crimes. In addition, ODIHR observes that Croatia would benefit from the awareness-raising and capacity-building of criminal justice officials about hate crimes.

Official Data

The data recorded by the police may include criminal offences of incitement to hatred, which fall outside the OSCE definition of hate crime. The reported prosecution figures consist of cases in which an indictment was filed and include cases initiated during the previous years.

Year	Hate crimes recorded by police	Prosecuted	Sentenced
2020	87	138	18

Police data by bias motivation

The police numbers represent the number of recorded offences. One incident can involve more than one offence.



Police data by type of crime

The police numbers represent the number of recorded offences. One incident can involve more than one offence.

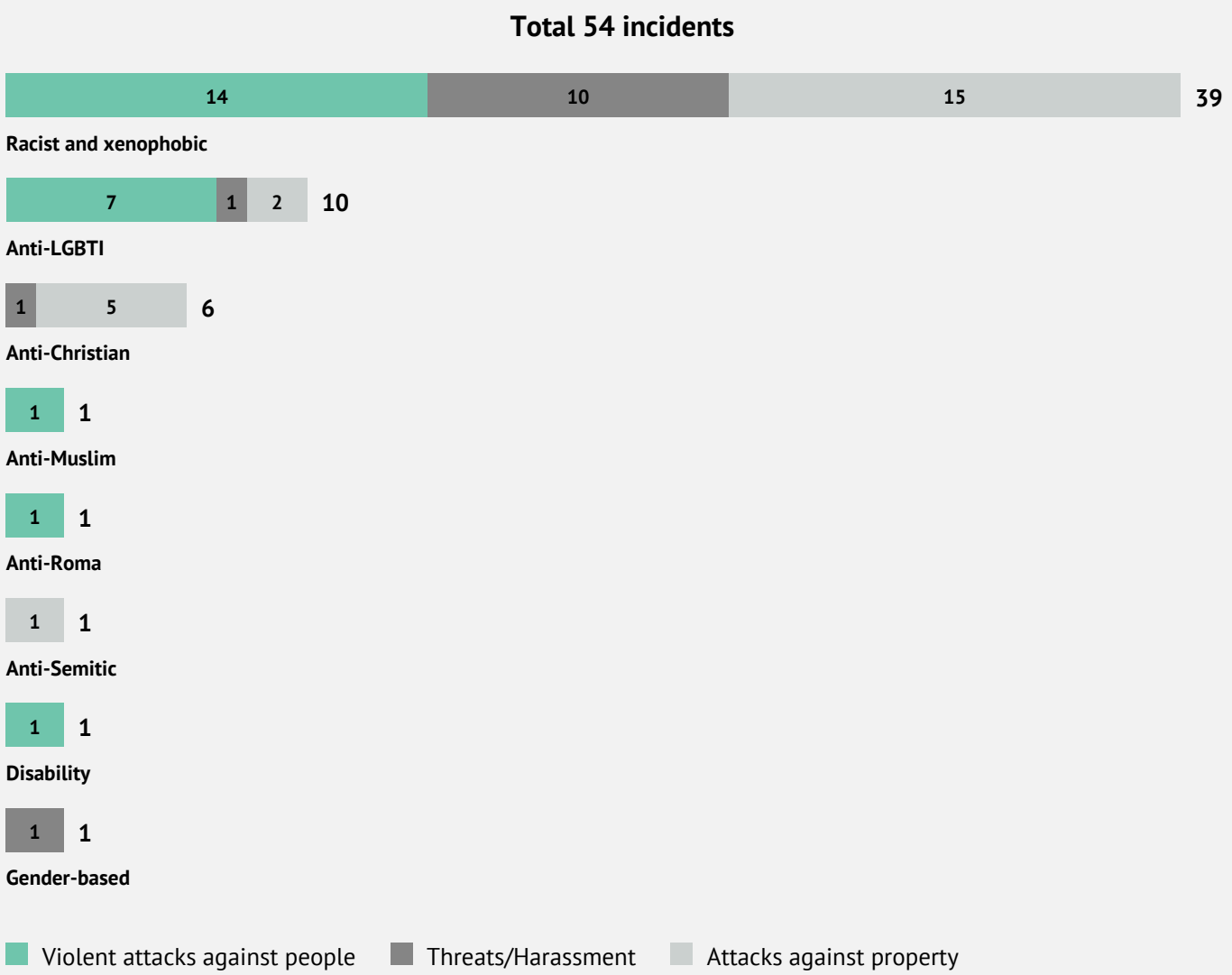


National Developments

In 2020, the drafting of the new "Protocol for Procedure in Cases of Hate Crime" (mentioned in last year's Hate Crime Report) continued; the Protocol was finalized by the Office for Human Rights and the Rights of National Minorities in 2021 (published in the Official Gazette under No. 43/2021.) The objective of the Protocol is to provide a comprehensive framework for collecting data on hate crimes. To that end, it provides a monitoring definition of hate crime; defines the obligations of individual institutions dealing with hate crimes; determines the responsibilities of the competent authorities involved in detecting, treating and monitoring the results of procedures conducted in hate crime cases; establishes the Working Group for Monitoring Hate Crimes at the Office for Human Rights and the Rights of National Minorities consisting of representatives of bodies in charge of combatting hate crimes, academia, and civil society organizations (CSOs) active in the field of hate crimes (the following five CSOs have participated in the Working Group since June 2021: Serb National Council, Jewish Community of Zagreb, Roma Association in the Republic of Croatia Kali Sara, Zagreb Pride and Center for Peace, Nonviolence and Human Rights Osijek); and defines specific forms for statistical collecting data on hate crime cases.

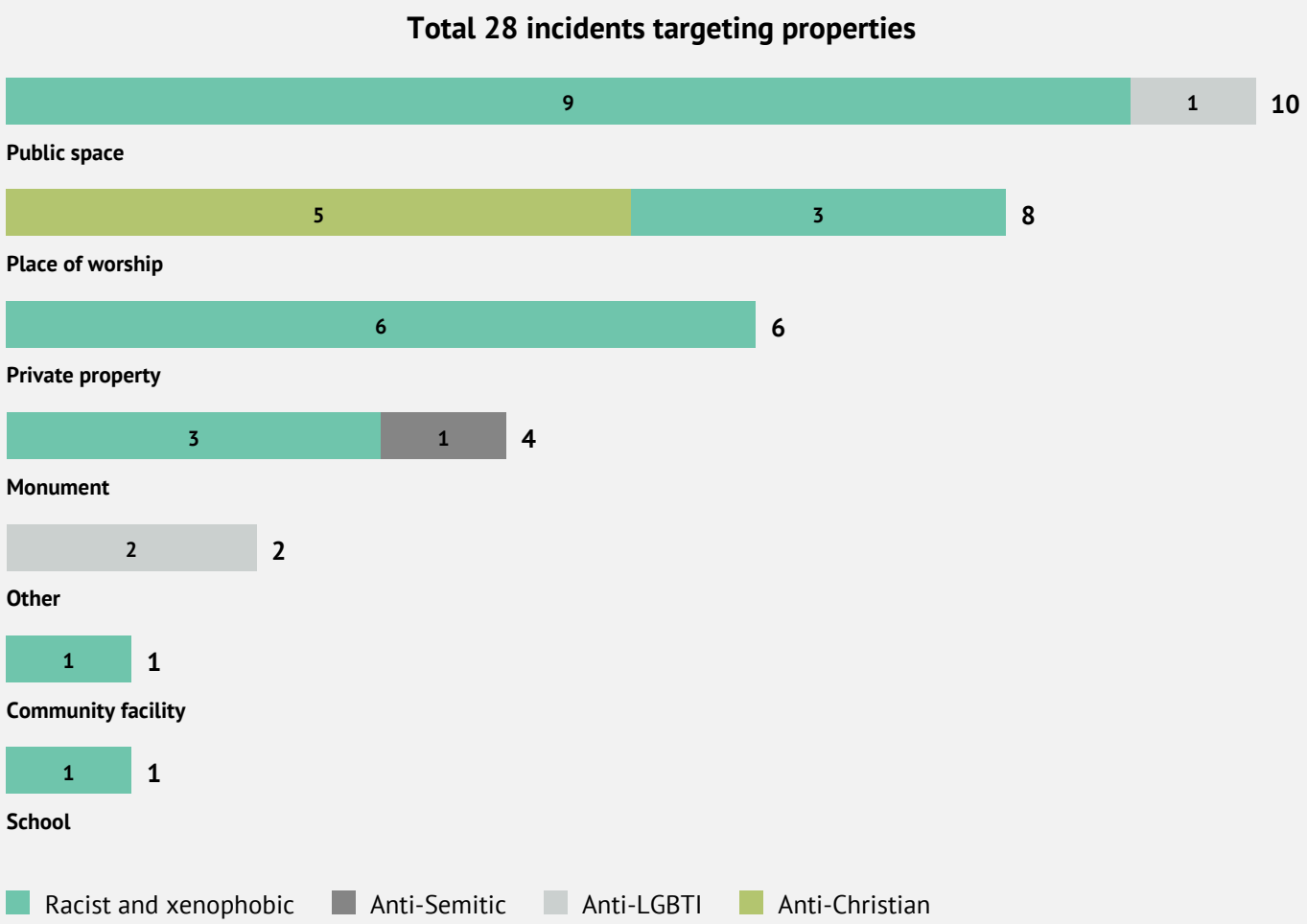
Furthermore, research on the state authorities' response to hate crimes was conducted under the project „IRIS – Improved response to intolerance through research, strategic advocacy, and training" funded by the Rights, Equality and Citizenship Programme of the European Union (2014-2020), and carried out by the Croatian Law Centre in partnership with the State Attorney's Office (hereinafter: SAO) of the Republic of Croatia, the Police Academy, and the Office for Human Rights and Rights of National Minorities of the Government of the Republic of Croatia, in cooperation with the Supreme Court and the High Misdemeanour Court of the Republic of Croatia. The objective of the research was to better understand the factors influencing the effective official response to hate crimes through mapping the procedures and actions employed by the police, public prosecutors and the courts in dealing with hate crimes; the report entitled "Hate Crime in Croatia: Empirical Research of Cases from the Period 2013 – 2018" includes recommendations to various state authorities. Under the same project, a separate document entitled "Recommendations for Improving Cooperation between CSOs, Police and Judicial Bodies" was published.

Incidents reported by civil society

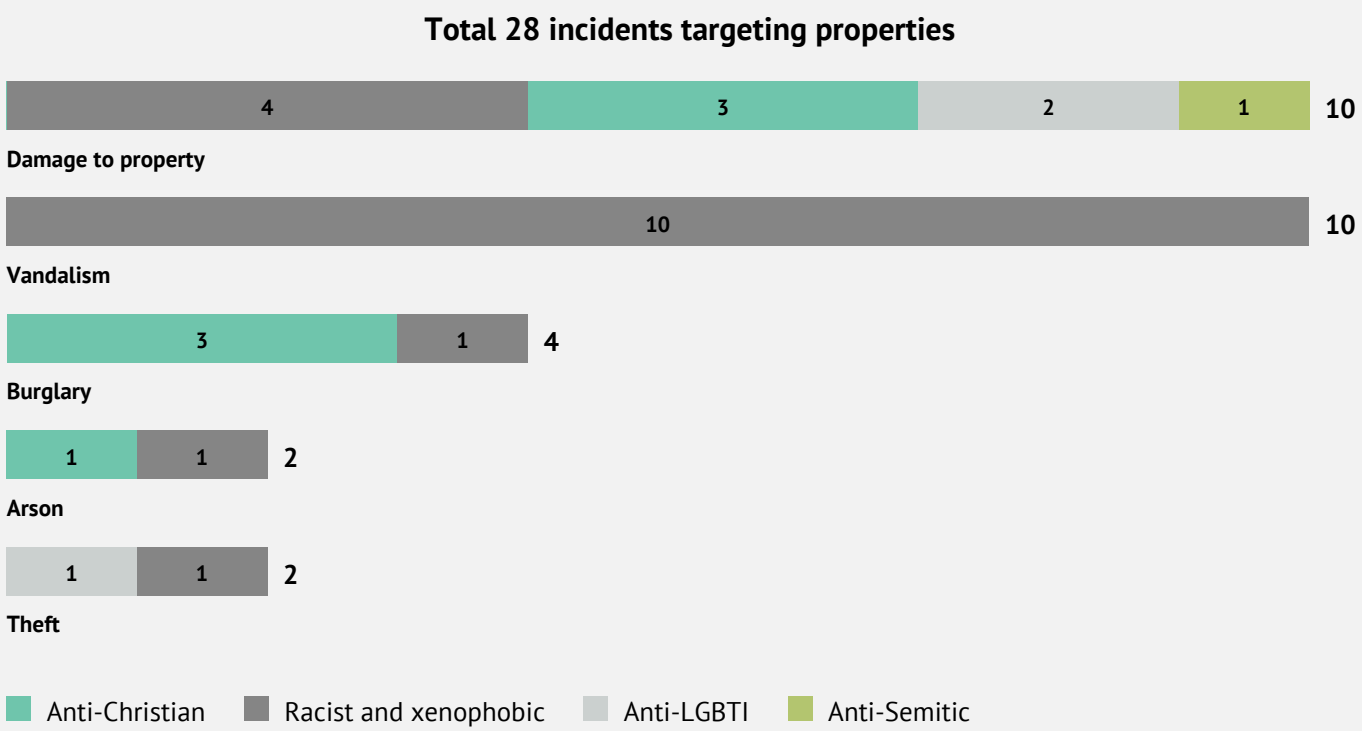


Please note that the total number of incidents may be lower than the sum of incidents presented in the breakdown chart above, as some incidents involve multiple bias motivations.

Targeted properties



Type of property attack



View civil society incidents for Croatia, 2020